



HF Happenings



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South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925
www.sarl.org.za www.iaru.org www.iaru-r1.org

July
2014

ZS9HQ and the IARU HF Championships

The call sign ZS9HQ was assigned to the SARL by ICASA and will be operated during the IARU HF championships. SARL President, Geoff Levey, ZS6C is inviting radio amateurs to join him. Please send an email to Geoff at contest@sarl.org.za with your call sign and contact details. He will contact you to discuss the operational schedule.

"Mobile phone switched on and handheld transceiver switched on as well." DO7KAY

IARU HF Championships

The objective is to contact as many other amateurs, especially IARU member society HQ stations, around the world as possible using the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 metre bands. No contest QSOS on 12, 17, 30 or 60 metres. On any band, a station may be worked once on Phone (in the Phone segment) and once on CW (in the CW segment).

The contest takes place on the second full weekend of July, beginning 12:00 UTC Saturday and ending 12:00 UTC Sunday - 12 and 13 July 2014. Both Single and Multi operator stations may operate the entire 24-hour period.

The contest exchange - IARU member society HQ stations send signal report and official IARU member society abbreviation, e.g. ZS9HQ will send 59 SARL or 599 SARL. Members of the IARU Administrative Council and the three IARU regional Executive committees send "AC," "R1," "R2," and "R3" as appropriate, e.g. ZS4BS would send 59 R1. All others send signal report and ITU zone. For South Africa the ITU Zone is 57. A complete exchange must be logged for each valid QSO.



Winter QRP Contest

The QRP contests are intended to be fun activities to promote QRP operation between radio amateurs. Using homebuilt equipment or operating as a portable / field station and using temporary antennas is encouraged, but is not a requirement. The Winter QRP Contest will be run from 12:00 UTC to 15:00 UTC on Saturday 19 July. It is a phone and CW contest using 5 watts (PEP) output or less and a station may be worked once per band per mode. There are no antenna restrictions.

The first hour is limited to the 40 m band only, the remaining two hours the contestants are free to use any HF (non-WARC) band as they see fit. Please comply with the contest preferred segments as detailed in the general rules. It would be advantageous to use the standard QRP calling frequencies as the starting point.

The exchange is a RS or RST report and your grid locator. Please consider exchanging realistic RS(T) signal reports. Please use the full 6 character grid locator. e.g. KG10xu. If the station's grid locator is unknown, then use some other means that identifies the station's location: E.g. the name of the closest

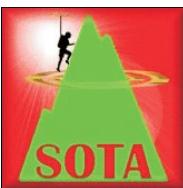
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July

- 2 to 5 - Innibos Festival, Nelspruit
- 4 to 13 - Oyster Festival, Knysna
- 5 - Durban July
- 9 to 12 - Bushveld festival, Ellisras
- 11 - 80th birthday of my Mom
- 11 and 12 - Crane Festival, Chrissiesmeer
- 12 and 13 - IARU HF Championships; WRTC 2014
- 12 and 13 - Bastille Festival, Franschhoek
- 18 and 19 - Biltong Festival, Somerset West
- 18 to 20 - Boat and Lifestyle Show, Durban
- 19 - Winter QRP Contest
- 21 - Schools open
- 25 to 27 - Gauteng Motor Show, Brakpan
- 26 and 27 - RSGB IOTA Contest
- 28 - Eid-ul-Fitr

August

- 3 - CQ South Africa HF Phone Contest
- 9 - National Women's day; SARL YL Sprint
- 16 and 17 - International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend
- 17 - CQ South Africa Digital Contest
- 23 - Radio technology in Action in Johannesburg
- 31 - CQ South Africa CW Contest



Current Summits-on-the-Air (SOTA) activities are announced at www.sotawatch.org
And more SOTA information can be found at www.sota.org.uk and www.zs4bfn.co.za/sota.asp



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town or city e.g. Middelburg (Eastern Cape), or 25 km NW of Bloemfontein. With DX contacts the locator information can be omitted, the RS(T) will suffice as the minimum required exchange as per the general rules

QSO Points - each contact counts 1 point. Prefix / Country multiplier - each South African call area 0 through 9 counts as a multiplier and each DXCC country worked counts as a multiplier. Station type multiplier - x 1 for home stations; x 2 for portable stations and x 3 for ultra light portable field station. The definitions listed in the general section of the SARL rules define the above stations types accurately.

A mobile station will be treated as a field station. A portable station not meeting the requirements as a field station will be treated as a home station. An ultra light portable field station must comply with all the field station criteria, but the operator must carry the entire station, antenna included to the operating site. The distance carried must not be less than 1 km.

Score = (QSO points) X (Prefix multiplier) X (Station multiplier). E-mailed logs submitted in electronic form will be appreciated. In order of preference, the following formats are requested - Using the provided Excel worksheet (available on SARL forum or direct from the contest manager); Send the logs in a text readable format i.e. Excel worksheet, ADIF or Cabrillo format. In all cases please fill out the normal minimum data fields: date, time, call sign of station worked, mode, RS(T) sent, exchange sent, RS(T) received, exchange received and optionally a comment field.

If the logging program does not have a field for "contest exchange" or the alternative contest exchange is too long and does not fit in the provided entry field, then log that exchange info in the comment field.

Logs shall be submitted by 26 July 2014 to contest@sarl.org.za. A photo(s) of the station (JPG format) MUST accompany every log entry.

Live scoreboard for 2014 World Radiosport Team Championship

Organizers of the 2014 World Radiosport Team Championship have announced that there will be a live scoreboard for tracking the team standings during the event on 12 and 13 July. The Live Scoreboard <http://sb.wrtc2014.org/> will be directly accessible online or from a link on the WRTC2014 website <http://wrtc2014.org/>. The site uses responsive design principles to provide maximum usability on desktop, tablet, and mobile platforms.

The scoreboard uses an innovative data collection method developed by Dave Pascoe, KM3T and Bob Raymond, WA1Z. Each WRTC-2014 team will be using networked computers to log the contest. The score collection system will "sniff" the network traffic to obtain the latest score and QSO breakdown information. This data will be transmitted by cellular modem every five minutes back to the score processing web site.

Previous WRTC events used manual score submissions on an hourly basis. This will be the first to use automation to present scores in near real-time. The web site will show the scores of all teams ordered by score. The team's band breakdown, hourly rate sheet, and position for each hour of the contest will also be available. A leader board page will list the top five teams by CW contacts, SSB contacts, multipliers, and points per QSO. Another innovation is the ability to select multiple teams and compare their scores on a graph vs time. This will reveal how the fortunes of teams change over the 24 hours as they follow their various strategies for building their score.

Teams will be shown by the calls of the team members rather than their over-the-air call sign. This is done to maintain fairness by keeping the team identity behind each call sign a secret. The teams are not allowed to identify themselves over the air except by their competition call sign.

4U1UN Beacon

After a bit more than four years, the NCDXF-IARU Beacon 4U1UN has resumed transmitting. The beacon was deactivated during the UN HQ Building renovation and was put back on the air Wednesday 18 June by James K2QI, the 4U1UN station manager and President of the UN Amateur Radio Club. If you are not near a radio, you can see NCDXF Beacon System activity on the Reverse Beacon Net system http://www.reversebeacon.net/beacons/beacons_ncdxf.php.

Download HF Happenings from
http://www.zs4bfn.co.za/HF_Happenings.asp

The European Radiosport Team Championship (ERTC)

In parallel with WRTC, a European team has created an online "virtual" competition, the European Radiosport Team Championship (ERTC) <http://www.hamsphere.com/read.php?4,32226,32226>. 100 young operators will be traveling to Finland to take part in Youngsters on the Air (YOTA) on 19 and 20 July. (*YOTA runs from 15 to 21 July. Ed.*) A new gateway to amateur radio for people accustomed to the online environment, the event is held under the auspices of the European Union and IARU Region 1 during the weekend immediately

For the ERTC event, teams of young amateurs from fifteen European countries will get together to compete under WRTC-like rules. The only difference is that equipment and technology will be harmonized to an even greater extent than at the present-day WRTC as the games take place locally but in Virtual Reality within a framework which is exactly the same for all teams and which allows participants to concentrate fully on the secrets of operating prowess. But how about understanding the behaviour of radio propagation on various bands? Not to worry since the ERTC platform simulates existing VOACAP-based propagation profiles on a real-time basis. This knowledge remains real even in Virtual Reality.

A virtual WRTC will make it easier to deal with logistical requirements; you only need to have access to sufficient Internet bandwidth. In a virtual environment, it is possible to set up e.g. qualifying races with no need to establish 50 radio stations for the purpose of singling out the teams that will ultimately enter the actual serious race. This kind of "ERTC radio game" is also in line with the need to reach out to young people comfortable in their own element as a potential source of newcomers to the wonderful world of Amateur Radio. The Finnish team at Radio Arcala (OH8X) http://www.radioarcala.com/?page_id=217 has drafted a roadmap for the revitalization of Amateur Radio based on the concept of linking the past with the present and the future.

Operating Tip

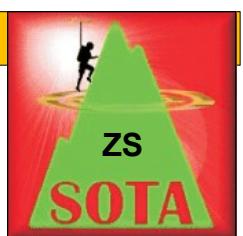
Don't - in this case meaning "Don't log it!" One mark of a seasoned operator is knowing when *not* to log a QSO. When unsure of the call or exchange, ask for a repeat or ask the station to call later, but don't put a questionable QSO in your log and risk a penalty, no matter how juicy the multiplier might be!

ZS SOTA News

There has been quite a bit of SOTA activity from South Africa during the month of June, it looks like the winter weather is getting the guys and gals out of the house and climbing summits!

The long weekend of 14 to 16 June saw the most activity with 5 summits being activated. In the Free State, Dennis, ZS4BS, activated Mount Paul ZS/FS-012 (HF, 2 m and 70 cm) on Saturday 14 June and Surrender Hill, ZS/FS-013 (HF) on Monday 16 June. Surrender Hill is the site where a large Boer force surrendered to the British forces during the Anglo-Boer War.

Then Mpumalanga had 3 summits activated. The team of Sid, ZS5AYC, Adele, ZS5APT, Willie, ZS6WDT, Christo, ZR6LJK, Gert, ZS6GC, Elna, ZS6EB, Detlev, ZS6BAB, Lucas, ZS6ACT, and Magda, ZS6MMS, activated Wynberg, ZS/MP-005 (HF, 2 m and 70 cm) on Saturday 14 June. On Sunday 15 June they activated Kanonkop, ZS/MP-007 and on Monday 16 June, they activated Ossewakop, ZS/MP-004. This weekend also saw the first HF summit to summit QSO in South Africa between Willie, ZS6WBT on Wynberg and



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Platberg Harrismith Backpackers E-mail: platbergbackpackers@gmail.com
www.platbergbackpackers.co.za <https://www.facebook.com/platbergbackpackers?fref=ts>

I wonder if AF-064 will be activated for the RSGB Islands-on-the-Air Contest on 26 and 27 July 2014?

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Dennis, ZS4BS on Mount Paul. A UHF summit to summit QSO took place between Gert, ZS6GC on Wynberg and Dennis, ZS4BS on Mount Paul - thanks to the HABEX balloon.

Pierre, ZS6A, had plans to activate Perdekop, ZS/GP-001 on Saturday 14 June, but got foiled by power cables!

Later in the month, Eddie, ZS6BNE, had a look at two summits in the Swartruggens area, but could not reach the summits as the farmers would not allow him access.

Sid, ZS5AYC, and Adele, ZS5APT, while visiting family in Nelspruit, activated Stanleybushkop, ZS/MP-018 on Wednesday 25 June.

Then on Sunday 29 June, Dave, ZS2DH, activated Lady's Slipper, ZS/EC-016 using 2 metres. Mandy, ZS2AV, and Andrew, ZS2G, activated Cockscomb, ZS/EC-006, also on 2 metres.

Dennis, HB9/ZS4BS, together with Andy, HB9JOE, and Eva, HB9FPM/OK3QE, activated Bachtel Kulm, HB/ZH-004 on Thursday 26 June before driving through to Ham Radio in Friedrichshafen. Dennis worked a S2S with Austria and Germany. At Ham Radio on Friday and Saturday at 12:00 each

African Islands

IOTA News. Look at the RSGB Islands on the Air website, <http://www.rsgbiota.org/index.php>, for latest updates of the IOTA directory and recent changes in the IOTA programme. Rule changes are also available at <http://www.g3kma.dsl.pipex.com/>. It is expected that during the IOTA Convention on the first weekend of July, 10 new IOTA groups will be named.



IOTA - Centres of activities: CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz; SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

EA8, Canary Islands. The following list is the activities of the URE club from Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (EA8URL): 19 and 20 July - EF8U - National Competition CNCW Telegraph; 16 and 17 August - AO8LH - International Lighthouse Weekend; 30 August to 14 September 14 - AO8BWC - World Basketball Championship, and 27 and 28 September - EF8U - CQ WW RTTY Contest. Find more information at <http://ea8url.blogspot.de/>

African DX

Africa Tour. Mike, SQ3PMM, and his girlfriend are riding their "rainbow truck" all the way through Africa and get on the air while doing so. Visit <http://www.rainbowtruck.blogspot.de/> (in Polish, but there is a translate function) <http://www.rainbowtruck.pl/> and <http://aprs.fi/#!call=a%2FSQ3PMM-9&timerange=604800&tail=604800>



Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 30 June to 7 July 2014

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 2 July and
03:00 - 04:00 UTC 3 July

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-

Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 5 July 2014

Post log summary at:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>

Mail logs to: (none)

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Wen-Do-Lin Traveller's Rest at Glen, just off the N1

<http://www.wen-do-lin.com> E-mail: mcwilson@telkommsa.net

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Find rules at: <http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

NRAU 10 m Activity Contest

17:00 - 18:00 UTC 3 (CW), 18:00 - 19:00 UTC (SSB),
19:00 - 20:00 UTC (FM) and 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 3 July (Dig)

Mode: CW, SSB, FM, Digital

Bands: 10 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RS(T) and 6-character grid square

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 17 July 2014

Upload log at: http://ua9qcq.com/en/submit_log.php?lang=en

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.nrau.net/activity-contests/below-30mhz.html>

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 4 July

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 6 July 2014

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html>

NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 4 July

Mode: (see rules)

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 6 July 2014

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

Venezuelan Independence Day Contest

Winter QRP Contest

19 July 12:00 to 15:00 UTC

1st hour - 40 metres only

Phone and CW

00:00 UTC 5 July to 23:59 UTC 6 July

Mode: CW, SSB, PSK

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - CW, SSB, PSK or mixed; Single Op Single Band - CW, SSB, PSK or mixed; Multi-Single; SWL

Exchange: RS(T) and serial no

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country; 3 points per QSO with different country, same continent; 5 points per QSO with different continent

Multipliers: Each Venezuelan call area and each DXCC country once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 31 July 2014

E-mail logs to: contestyv@cantv.net

Mail logs to: Radio Club Venezolano, Concurso Independencia de Venezuela, PO Box 20285, Caracas 1020-A, Venezuela

Find rules at: <http://yv5rcv.org/reglasindep.aspx>

DL-DX RTTY Contest

11:00 UTC 5 July to 10:59 UTC 6 July

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op Multi-Band Single Radio; Single Op Multi-Band 6 Hrs Single Radio; Single Op Multi-Band Dipole Single Radio; Single Op Multi-Band Dipole 6 Hrs Single Radio; Single Op Multi-Band; Multi-Single; Multi-Multi

Exchange: RST and QSO no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with same country; 10 points per QSO with different country same continent; 15 points per QSO with different continent

EU Stations: Add 3 QSO points for QSO with DL station; non-EU Stations: Add 5 QSO points for QSO with DL station

Multipliers: Each DXCC country once per band; Each VK, VE, JA and W call area once per band

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Get on the RaDAR....and GO!



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Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 10 August 2014

E-mail logs to: logs@drcg.de

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.drcg.de/index.php/en/dl-dx-rtty-contest/82-dl-dx-rtty-rules>

Marconi Memorial HF Contest

14:00 UTC 5 July to 14:00 UTC 6 July

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Multi-Op

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: RST and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country; 3 points per QSO with different country, same continent; 5 points per QSO with different continent

Multipliers: Each CQ WW country once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 14:00 UTC 11 July 2014

E-mail logs to: contest.marconi@arifano.it

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.arifano.it/contest_marconi.html

Original QRP Contest

15:00 UTC 5 July to 15:00 UTC 6 July

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op - VLP, QRP or MP - handmade or open

Max operating hours: 15 hours

Max power: VLP: 1 W; QRP: 5 W; MP: 20 W

Exchange: RST, serial no, "/" and power category

QSO Points: QSO with station who submits log: 4 points; QSO with station that does not submit log: 1 point; 15% bonus for use of TR/TRX assembled from kit; 30% bonus for use of unique handmade TR/TRX

Multipliers: DXCC Countries: 2 mult points if station submits log, 1 mult point if no log

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Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mult points

Submit logs by: 31 July 2014

E-mail logs to: ogrpc@grpcc.de

Mail logs to: Lutz Gutheil, DL1RNN, Bergstrasse 17, D-38446 Wolfsburg, Germany

Find rules at: <http://www.grpcc.de/contestrules/ogpr.html>

PODXS 070 Club 40 m Firecracker Sprint

20:00 local 5 July to 02:00 local 6 July

Mode: PSK31

Bands: 40 m Only

Classes: QRP; Low Power; Medium Power

Max power: Medium Power: 100 watts; Low Power: 50 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: RST and state, province or country

QSO Points: 1 point/QSO

Multipliers: Each state, province and DXCC country once only

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 19 July 2014

E-mail logs to: k9vic@arrl.net

Mail logs to: Eric Dallmann, K9VIC, 15707 S. River Rd., Plainfield, IL 60544, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.podxs070.com/o7o-club-sponsored-contests/40m-firecracker-sprint>

DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest

11:00 - 17:00 UTC 6 July

Mode: RTTY, Amtor, Clover, PSK31, Pactor

Bands: 10 m Only

Classes: Single Op; SWL

Exchange: RST and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each WAE/DCXX area; Each W/VE call area

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 21 July 2014

E-mail logs to: do1npf@darc.de

Mail logs to: Peter Frank, DO1NPF, Postfach 11 19, 90515 Altdorf, Germany

Find rules at: <http://www.darc.de/referate/ukw-funksport/corona/teilnahmebedingungen/>

QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint

20:00 - 23:59 UTC 6 July

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Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: All Band; Single Band; High Bands; Low Bands

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and ARCI no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with ARCI member; 4 points per non-member QSO with different continent; 2 points per non-member QSO with same continent Bonus Points: 2 000 points per band for using homebrew transmitter; 3 000 points per band for using homebrew receiver; 5 000 points per band for using homebrew transceiver; 5 000 points for operating portable with emergency power and temporary antennas

Multipliers: States, once per band; VE Provinces, once per band; Countries, once per band

Power Mult: >5 W = x 1, 1 - 5 W = x 7, 250 mW - 1 W = x 10, 55 - 250 mW = x 15, <55 mW = x 20

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x (state mults and province mults and country mults) x power mult) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 20 July 2014

E-mail logs to: contest@grparci.org

Mail logs to: QRP Summer Homebrew Sprint, c/o Jeff Hetherington, VA3JFF, 139 Elizabeth St. W., Welland, Ontario L3C 4M3, Canada

Find rules at: <http://www.grparci.org/contests/grp-arci-contests/130-summer-homebrew-sprint>

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW

19:00 - 20:30 UTC 7 July

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 14 July 2014

Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2014/r80mcc.shtml>



Next Weeks Contests

ARS Spartan Sprint, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 8 July

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 9 July and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 10 July

FISTS Summer Sprint, 00:00 - 04:00 UTC 12 July

IARU HF World Championship, 12:00 UTC 12 July to 12:00 UTC 13 July

CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush, 20:00 - 21:59 UTC 13 July

History this Week, week starting 30 June 14

HISTORY



1687 - Isaac Newton's PRINCIPIA published by Royal Society in England

1876 - First public exhibition of electric light in San Francisco

1897 - Marconi Patent "Improvements in Transmitting Electrical impulses and Signals, and in Apparatus therefor"

1898 - Marconi tests radio for Lloyds between Ballycastle and Rathlin Island, Ireland

1900 - Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin first airship LZ-1, flies

1901 - The US National Bureau of Standards became effective

1924 - First photo sent experimentally across Atlantic by radio, US to England

1928 - John Logie Baird demonstrated the world's first colour TV transmission

1948 - Transistor as a substitute for Radio tubes announced by Bell Labs

1951 - Junction transistor invention announced, Murray Hill, NJ

1987 - Two men became the first hot-air balloon travellers to cross the Atlantic

2014 - ZS4BS returns from Ham Radio 2014

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL DX Newsletter, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC News, DxCoffee and the Islands, Castles & Portable Operations Bulletin